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Dear ORMP Participant:

Thank you for your interest and participation in the creation of the 2006 Ocean Resources Management Plan.

As you know, the original 1991 ORMP set forth guidelines and recommended actions for the State of Hawaii to achieve comprehensive ocean and coastal resources management. Since then, changes within the State as well as new issues have arisen. In order to address the current and future state of the ocean, the ORMP will be revised and updated in 2006. The Office of Planning, Department of Land and Natural Resources, and Office of Hawaiian Affairs co-sponsored an ORMP Workshop, held on October 26, to begin constructing a framework for the 2006 ORMP.

The Workshop generated many helpful recommendations and projects that we are striving to incorporate into the implementation of the ORMP. Through this evaluation process, our aim is to identify common and overlapping concerns among the various stakeholders.

Because we are always facing limited resources, it is critical that we have your assistance in identifying the most pressing priorities that must be addressed over the next five years. Our goal is to focus our initial implementation efforts on the critical priorities, rather than diffusing our efforts across many areas.

We are inviting you to evaluate the initiatives and projects proposed at the ORMP Working Conference, and to suggest other possible activities. We ask that you respond thoughtfully on those issues you feel are the most far-reaching, urgent, and beneficial. If you do not have an opinion on any particular project or issue, feel free to skip it and respond to only the issues that concern you.

After we have compiled the results of this survey, we will report back on those ocean management issues and opportunities that were identified as the highest priority for the initial implementation of the plan.

Once again, thank you for your effort and your time. It is important to us to incorporate the needs of the various interested parties into our plan, and we look forward to moving ahead on this project with you. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Laura H. Thielen

Director